

## § 303.17

### § 303.17 Multidisciplinary.

As used in this part, *multidisciplinary* means the involvement of two or more disciplines or professions in the provision of integrated and coordinated services, including evaluation and assessment activities in § 303.322 and development of the IFSP in § 303.342.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1435(a)(3), 1436(a))

### § 303.18 Natural environments.

As used in this part, *natural environments* means settings that are natural or normal for the child's age peers who have no disabilities.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1435 and 1436)

[63 FR 18294, Apr. 14, 1998]

### § 303.19 Parent.

(a) *General.* As used in this part, "parent" means—

(1) A natural or adoptive parent of a child;

(2) A guardian;

(3) A person acting in the place of a parent (such as a grandparent or step-parent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare); or

(4) A surrogate parent who has been assigned in accordance with § 303.406.

(b) *Foster parent.* Unless State law prohibits a foster parent from acting as a parent, a State may allow a foster parent to act as a parent under Part C of the Act if—

(1) The natural parents' authority to make the decisions required of parents under the Act has been extinguished under State law; and

(2) The foster parent—

(i) Has an ongoing, long-term parental relationship with the child;

(ii) Is willing to make the decisions required of parents under the Act; and

(iii) Has no interest that would conflict with the interests of the child.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1401(19), 1431–1445)

[64 FR 12535, Mar. 12, 1999]

### § 303.20 Policies.

(a) As used in this part, *policies* means State statutes, regulations, Governor's orders, directives by the lead agency, or other written documents that represent the State's posi-

## 34 CFR Ch. III (7–1–02 Edition)

tion concerning any matter covered under this part.

(b) State policies include—

(1) A State's commitment to maintain the statewide system (see § 303.140);

(2) A State's eligibility criteria and procedures (see § 303.300);

(3) A statement that, consistent with § 303.520(b), provides that services under this part will be provided at no cost to parents, except where a system of payments is provided for under Federal or State law.

(4) A State's standards for personnel who provide services to children eligible under this part (see § 303.361);

(5) A State's position and procedures related to contracting or making other arrangements with service providers under subpart F of this part; and

(6) Other positions that the State has adopted related to implementing any of the other requirements under this part.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1431–1445)

[58 FR 40959, July 30, 1993. Redesignated and amended at 63 FR 18294, Apr. 14, 1998]

### § 303.21 Public agency.

As used in this part, *public agency* includes the lead agency and any other political subdivision of the State that is responsible for providing early intervention services to children eligible under this part and their families.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1431–1445)

[58 FR 40959, July 30, 1993. Redesignated at 63 FR 18294, Apr. 14, 1998]

### § 303.22 Qualified.

As used in this part, *qualified* means that a person has met State approved or recognized certification, licensing, registration, or other comparable requirements that apply to the area in which the person is providing early intervention services.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1432(4))

NOTE: These regulations contain the following provisions relating to a State's responsibility to ensure that personnel are qualified to provide early intervention services: